

R E M A R K S

Applicant has carefully considered the above identified Office Action, and in response thereto is addressing each issue raised by the examiner in the remarks hereinbelow. In this regard, applicant is canceling without prejudice claims 7, 13 and 18.

Double Patenting Rejection

Applicant hereby references a phone conversation on December 6, 2004 between examiner's supervisor, Lesley Morris and applicant's attorney, Donald J. Ersler. Examiner's supervisor agreed with applicant's attorney that the double patenting rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection 35 USC 112

Applicant has canceled without prejudice claims 7, 13 and 18. Therefore, the 112 rejection concerning claims 7, 13 and 18 is moot.

Claim Rejection 35 USC 103(a)

Applicant respectfully disagrees with examiner concerning the rejection of claims 1, 8 and 14 utilizing the Dahl '892 patent in view of the Yabe et al. '172 patent application. Dahl teaches the use a rectangular hitch insert that is capable of fitting into two different size rectangular hitch receivers. The Yabe et al. teaches lubricating a plurality of ball or roller

bearings in a linear motion device. Applicant's device does not have a plurality of rolling elements. Examiner has combined two completely unrelated prior art disclosures. The examiner is engaging in hindsight reconstruction. Examiner must show his incentive for making the combination of Dahl and Yabe et al.

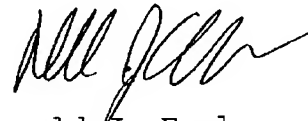
The combination of elements from non-analogous sources, in a manner that reconstructs the applicant's invention only with the benefit of hindsight, is insufficient to present a prima facie case of obviousness. There must be some reason, suggestion, or motivation found in the prior art whereby a person of ordinary skill in the field of the invention would make the combination. That knowledge can not come from the applicant's invention itself. In re Oetiker, 24 USPQ 2d 1443, 1446 (Fed. Cir. 1992)

Examiner is using applicant's invention as a blueprint to combine two completely dissimilar prior art documents. Therefore, claims 1, 8 and 14 are allowable and all claims dependent upon them.

C O N C L U S I O N

It is respectfully submitted that applicant has responded in a fully satisfactory manner to all matters at issue in this application, and this application is now in condition for allowance. In this regard, applicant has made every effort to comply with the requirements set forth in this Office Action as well as statutory requirements. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this amendment, allow the claims, and pass this application on to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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